

T02-062A

REMARKS**I. General**

The issues outstanding in the instant application are as follows:

- Claims 1-3 and 5-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Schmid, U.S. Pat. No. 6,039,664 (hereinafter *Schmid*);
- Claims 12-14 and 16-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Mutoh, German Pat. No. 3809169 (hereinafter *Mutoh*); and
- Claims 4 and 15 are indicated as allowable.

As pointed out above, this amendment is presented under 37 CFR 1.116 and MPEP § 714.13 and is intended to place this application in condition for allowance.

Although applicant still disagrees with the above rejections of claims 1-3, 5-14 and 16-22, claims 4 and 15, indicated in the present office action as allowable, have been placed in independent form, by amending claims 1 and 12, respectively. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to include the elements of claims 4 and 15, as well as intervening claims 2 and 3, and 13 and 14, respectively.

Additionally, independent claim 22 is amended to include elements recited in claims 3 and 4, and 14 and 15, respectively. (The elements of intervening claims 2 and 13 were already present in claim 22).

Following entry of these amendments the pending claims will be allowable and are made at the suggestion of the Office Action. Therefore, this amendment should be entered pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116(b)(1) and MPEP § 714.12 and MPEP § 714.13.

Applicant believes no fees are required for entry of this Amendment. However, if a further fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 07-0475, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

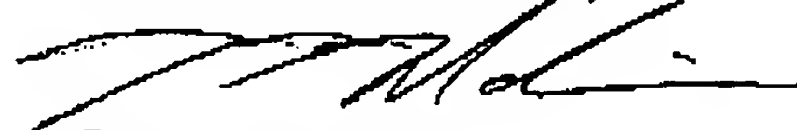
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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that the attorney can be helpful in resolving any remaining issues or can otherwise be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application (i.e. by approving any further necessary amendments by entry of an Examiner's Amendment).

Dated: May 5, 20098

JLM
Denver, Colorado

Respectfully submitted,



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